

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of packaging comprising:
applying an adhesive to a first side of a finished wafer, the first side of the finished wafer having at least one die, the adhesive being one or more of an elastomer applied in fluid form, a thermoplastic material, or a pressure-sensitive film; and
after applying the adhesive to the first side of the finished wafer, forming an array of conductive elements within the adhesive to a level substantially flush with a surface of the adhesive layer, the surface being distal to the first side, to allow the adhesive to contact a support to attach the at least one die to the support at initial contact of the array of conductive elements with the support, the array of conductive elements electrically coupled to an array of connection pads on the at least one die, wherein the array of conductive elements includes a plurality of conductive elements.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein forming an array of conductive elements includes:
creating openings in the adhesive, the openings aligned with the array of connection pads;
and
substantially filling the openings with an electrically conductive material.
3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~the method is performed in the order presented~~ forming an array of conductive elements includes forming conductive material selected from one or more of lead-based solders, lead-free solders, conductive polymers, or conductive pastes.
4. (Currently Amended) A method of packaging comprising:
applying an adhesive to a first side of a finished wafer, the first side of the finished wafer having at least one die, the adhesive being an elastomer applied in fluid form;

after applying the adhesive to the first side of the finished wafer, processing the adhesive to create an array of openings therein, the array of openings providing access to an array of connection pads on the at least one die; and

after processing the adhesive to create an array of openings therein, substantially filling the array of openings with an electrically conductive material to a level substantially flush with a surface of the adhesive layer, the surface being distal to the first side, to allow the adhesive to contact a support to attach the at least one die to the support at initial contact of the array of conductive elements with the support, wherein filling the array of openings with the electrically conductive material includes filling a plurality of openings.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the method further includes applying a protective coating to a second side of the wafer.

6. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the method further includes singulating the at least one die from the wafer wherein the at least one die with the adhesive and electrically conductive material form an individual flip chip package.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the method further includes surface mounting the flip chip package to a receiving support.

8. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the method further includes curing the adhesive.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4, wherein ~~the method is performed in the order presented~~ forming an array of conductive elements includes forming conductive material selected from one or more of lead-based solders, lead-free solders, conductive polymers, or conductive pastes.

10-26. (Cancelled)

27. (Currently Amended) A method of packaging comprising:
providing an adhesive layer;
after providing the adhesive layer, forming an array of conductive elements within [[an]]
the adhesive layer; and
after forming the array of conductive elements within the adhesive layer, applying the
adhesive layer having the array of conductive elements within the adhesive layer to a first side of
a finished wafer, the first side of the finished wafer having one or more dice, ~~after forming the~~
~~array of conductive elements~~ to couple the array of conductive elements electrically to an array
of connection pads on a first die of the one or more dice.
28. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 27, wherein forming an array of conductive
elements within [[an]] the adhesive layer includes forming openings in the adhesive layer and
forming conductive material in the openings to form the array of conductive elements.
29. (Original) The method of claim 28, wherein forming openings in the adhesive layer
includes forming openings by laser cutting, chemical etching, or die cutting.
30. (Original) The method of claim 27, wherein forming an array of conductive elements
includes forming an array of solder columns.
31. (Original) The method of claim 27, wherein forming an array of conductive elements
includes forming an array of solder balls.
32. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 27, wherein applying the adhesive layer
includes applying the adhesive layer configured as a film with a removable backing and
removing the removable backing after securing the adhesive layer to the first side of a finished
wafer.
33. (Original) The method of claim 27, wherein the method further includes singulating the
first die from the finished wafer and forming an individual flip chip package.

34-58. (Cancelled)

59. (Currently Amended) A method of packaging comprising:

applying an adhesive to a first side of a finished wafer, the first side of the finished wafer having at least one die, the adhesive being an elastomer applied in fluid form;

after applying the adhesive to the first side of the finished wafer, processing the adhesive to create an array of openings therein, the array of openings providing access to an array of connection pads on the at least one die; and

after processing the adhesive to create an array of openings therein, substantially filling the array of openings with an electrically conductive paste material to a level substantially flush with a surface of the adhesive layer, the surface being distal to the first side, to allow the adhesive to contact a support to attach the at least one die to the support at initial contact of the array of electrically conductive paste material with the support, wherein filling the array of openings includes filling a plurality of openings.

60. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 59, wherein the method includes applying a dispensing apparatus to place the paste in the openings.

61. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 59, wherein the method includes applying stencil/screen techniques to place the paste in the openings.

62. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 59, wherein the adhesive is cured prior to filling the array of openings with an electrically conductive paste material.

63. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 59, wherein the method includes singulating the finished wafer to provide the at least one die as an individual die.

64. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 63, wherein the method includes coupling the at least one die as an individual die to a motherboard.

65. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4, wherein the method ~~applying an adhesive~~ includes ~~applying the adhesive with~~ forming a chamfer around each opening of the array of openings such that each chamfer is formed for a single opening and its associated conductive element.

66. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 59, wherein the method ~~applying an adhesive~~ includes ~~applying the adhesive with~~ forming a chamfer around each opening of the array of openings such that each chamfer is formed for a single opening and its associated conductive element.